

FATHOM THIS!

The monthly newsletter from San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park

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It's a beautiful beginning to October in San Francisco! Come over to your national park on the city's historic waterfront, and take in programs the park has to offer, or just stroll Aquatic Park and Hyde Street Pier and enjoy the fine weather. Take a 3-hour sail aboard the 1891 Scow Schooner *Alma*, view maritime exhibits in the Visitor Center, discover your maritime history through ranger and docent-led programs, including a Hyde Street Pier cell phone tour, and through research at the Maritime Library and the Historic Documents collections. For more information on all that your park has to offer, please see the park's website at <http://www.nps.gov>, and the website of the San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, at <http://www.maritime.org>.

Feel free to forward this newsletter, and enter it, in whole or in part, into blogs. To subscribe, or unsubscribe, please contact the editor at peter_kasin@nps.gov. Subscribers names are never sold or loaned.

FREE DAY

Beginning this month, the first Sunday of every month is a free day at the park. Admission fees to board the fleet of historic floating vessels at Hyde Street Pier are waived.

CARGO IS KING EXHIBIT WINS NATIONAL AWARD

Exhibit open daily , 9:30am-5:00pm aboard Balclutha. Ships admission fees apply: Adults, \$5. Ages 15 and under, free. Free with national park passes.

The square-rigged ship *Balclutha's* 'tween deck exhibit *Cargo Is King* has received a major national award: first place in the Interior Exhibits category by the National Association for Interpretation (NAI). The NAI serves to advance the profession of heritage interpretation, serving over 5,000 members in the USA, Canada, and over 30 other nations. Congratulations to the park's exhibits team who conceived of, and built, this compelling exhibit. Step below from the main deck of the *Balclutha* and enter this world throughout her 'tween deck, a world of sights and sounds from her cargo carrying careers.

ROBBIE O'CONNELL SEA MUSIC CONCERT

Saturday, October 17, 8:00pm, aboard Balclutha. Tickets: \$14 general, \$12 San Francisco Maritime National Park Association and Maritime Library Friends members. To purchase tickets, please call the SFMNPA at 415-561-6662, ext. 33, or visit The Maritime Store, 2905 Hyde Street. Online ticket purchasing option coming soon. Please see the SFMNPA website at <http://www.maritime.org>, and for more information and photos of all the performers in the concert series, please see the park website at <http://www.nps.gov/safr/>. Wheelchair accessible.

Robbie O'Connell is one of Celtic music's outstanding singers and songwriters. Since 1977, Robbie has performed both solo and as a member of the Clancy Brothers, The Green Fields of America, and several other renowned Irish music groups. He has performed on international stages such as Ireland, England, Scotland, Denmark, Germany, Uruguay, Bolivia, Ecuador, Nicaragua, and the Dominican Republic. Born and raised in Ireland, with the release of his first solo album in 1982 Robbie emerged as an artist of major stature. In 1992 he was seen by an estimated 500 million people worldwide on the telecast of a live tribute to Bob Dylan at Madison Square Garden in a performance which Rolling Stone magazine described as "breathtaking." Robbie has

recorded a number of CD's, and is described as "a writer of timeless-sounding emotionally powerful and often hilarious songs" (Boston Globe). Come see and hear Robbie perform in this unique, intimate waterfront setting.

KLEBINGAT LECTURE SERIES: VIDEO ADVENTURES ON THE HIGH SEAS

Saturday, October 24, 6:00pm. In the J. Porter Shaw Library, Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Donation: \$5 general, \$4 Maritime Library Friends members. Information and reservations: 415-561-7040. Wheelchair accessible by elevator.

Join park library technician Debbie Grace for a look at the maritime library's collection of maritime videos, both classic and modern. This program will focus on the many remakes of the pirate film, *Treasure Island*. Light refreshments will be served.

IN THE LIBRARY

Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. Hours: M-F, by appointment, and on the 3rd Saturday of the month (no appointment necessary), 10am-5pm. For weekday appointments: 415-561-7030. Same day appointments usually available. Wheelchair accessible by elevator.

There are always new Acadia historic photograph books to look at in the library. Some titles of local interest for your reading and viewing are: *Aquatic Park*, the story in pictures of the swim clubs, *The Port of Los Angeles*, *Catalina Island / Monterey County's North Coast*, *The California Delta*, and *Point Reyes Peninsula*.

HERCULES TO DRY DOCK / EUREKA PAINT PROJECT

When you visit Hyde Street Pier this fall you will see that the National Historic Landmark 1907 steam tug *Hercules* is not in her usual berth. On the morning of September 30th, She was moved to dry dock for the next three months to receive a comprehensive inspection, paint job, and repairs. In addition, we will begin a comprehensive paint project on the passenger deck of the 1890-built ferry *Eureka* in the coming weeks. The *Eureka* will be open to visitation with minor closures throughout the project. Fathom This! will keep you informed as these projects progress.

NEW C.A. THAYER SHIPWRIGHT JEFF MORRIS

With the promotion of *Thayer* shipwright Phil Erwin to Preservation Manager, the ships branch is looking forward to welcoming the schooner's new shipwright in early October. Jeff Morris comes to the park from the Mystic Seaport Museum in Mystic, Connecticut. He has been working on the restorations of the Eastern rigged fishing boat *Roanne* and the whaling ship *Charles W. Morgan*. Prior to that, Jeff was restoring yachts in Ohio. Jeff comes to this job with a great deal of experience as he was shipwright work leader on the *Thayer* project when the schooner was under restoration in Alameda. A lifelong sailor and experienced builder, Jeff will be a welcome addition to our talented staff of artisans. Come by and say hello!

NEW ACQUISITIONS IN HISTORIC DOCUMENTS

Historic Documents Department located in Lower Fort Mason, Bldg. E, 3rd Floor. To make an appointment, please call the Maritime Library desk: 415-561-7030.

Research your maritime history by viewing the park's extensive collection of primary source material. Here is what has been recently acquired: the *Warren E. Miller*

Photographic Collection (P90-020) consists of 6,039 photographs depicting various maritime scenes in San Francisco as well as other cities in the region. The *Myron Spaulding Boat Works Records* (HDC 1576) consists of approximately 2,000 naval architectural drawings, plus business records and scrapbooks of this Bay Area naval architect. *San Francisco Examiner Photographs of Aquatic Park* (PO8-001) are 7 black and white photo prints of Aquatic Park, including the Bathhouse and Municipal Pier; 1934-1947. *Captain John T. Torrance, Jr. Personal Photographs* (P09-003), consists of photograph albums belonging to this captain who began his career as a mess boy aboard a West Coast lumber steamer. Bow plans for the clipper ship *Snow Squall* (HDC 1572) and papers pertaining to the steam vessel *Cape Perpetua* (HDC 1573) are also now open for inspection.

NEW IN THE MARITIME STORE

2905 Hyde Street, at the entrance to Hyde Street Pier. Open daily, 9:30am-5:30pm. 415-775-2665.

The new documentary by Ken Burns, *The National Parks: America's Best Idea* is now available for sale. The entire 12-hour, 6-part series on DVD retails for \$99.99, and the soundtrack on CD, \$18.99.

SF MARITIME ARTIFACTS IN MOBY DICK EXHIBIT

Exhibit at the California College of the Arts Wattis Institute, 1111 Eighth Street, San Francisco. Exhibit runs until December 12, 2009.

A number of artifacts from the park's museum collection, including harpoons, scrimshaw, and a ship model, are featured in an exhibit about the novel *Moby Dick*. A link to the exhibit is provided below.

LINKS

<http://www.nps.gov/safr/> San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park.

<http://www.maritime.org> San Francisco Maritime National Park Association, the park's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://www.maritimelibraryfriends.org> Friends of the San Francisco Maritime Library, the park library's nonprofit member-supported cooperating association.

<http://hydestreetlivinghistory.org> The park Living History Program's volunteer created and managed website.

<http://www.corsair-viking.org> The San Francisco Sea Scouts, the park's neighboring partner in Aquatic Park.

<http://www.wattis.org/exhibitions/mobydick> The Wattis Institute exhibit on *Moby Dick*.

This publication is strictly for informational purposes and does not necessarily represent the views or opinions of the Department of Interior, the National Park Service, or the Park.